

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office action mailed May 5, 2004 is acknowledged. In the Office action claims 1-21 were examined with claims 1-11 being allowed, claim 13 being objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and claims 12 and 14-21 being rejected. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following arguments, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

This response is timely filed, as it is accompanied by a petition for a one month extension of time, and the requisite petition fee, thereby extending the response time until September 5, 2004.

The applicant would like to thank the examiner for granting a personal Examiner's Interview on August 26, 2004. In keeping with the discussions and results of that interview, claim 13 has been canceled, claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 13, and claim 19 has been amended similar to allowed claim 1. Consequently, claims 1-12 and 14-21 are still pending.

I. Specification

The specification has been amended to include a summary of invention as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.73 and as requested by the examiner. Therefore, the objection to the specification should be withdrawn.

Additionally, the specification has also been amended to correct a minor typographical error on page 11.

II. Claims

As indicated in the Office action, claims 1-11 are allowed. No amendments to claims 1-11 have been made and therefore, claims 1-11 remain allowed.

In keeping with the substance of the Office action and as discussed in the Examiner's Interview, claim 12 has been amended to include all of the limitations of objected to claim 13. Claims 14-18 depend from independent claim 12. Therefore, claim 12 as amended, and claims 14-18 are allowable.

Similarly, claim 19 has been amended to include limitations similar to allowed claim 1. Claims 20 and 21 depend from independent claim 19. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 19-21 must be withdrawn and the claims are allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments, the applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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